Chief Ron Camacho Chambersburg (PA) Police Department

How Small Towns Can Use Technology To Enhance Crime Fighting Tactics

Chambersburg Borough

- 6.9 Square Miles
- Population 22,000 (Grows to about 35,000 during working hours)
- Bordered on the East by Highway I-81(One of the Busiest Highways in the United States)

- U.S. Highways 30 (Lincoln Highway) and 11 Run Through the Middle of Chambersburg
- Ten Council Members
- Borough Manager in Charge of all Departments except PD
- Police Chief Reports to Mayor
- Borough Owns Utilities (Gas, Electric, Water)

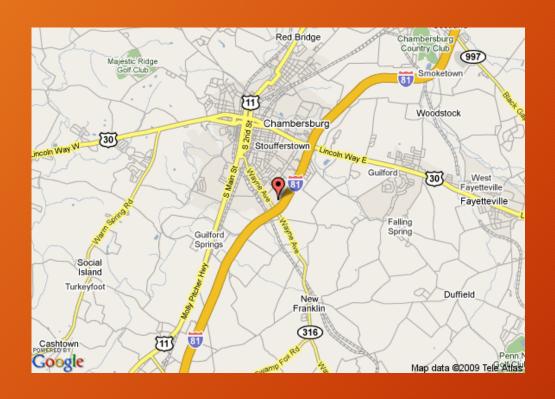
Downtown Chambersburg

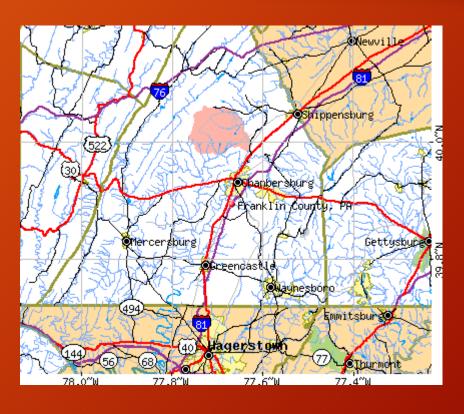
Square

Capital Theater



Geographical Location





Chambersburg Police Department

- 34 Full Time (1 part time)
- Chief, Lieutenant, 5 Sergeants (4 Patrol, 1 Detective), 4 Corporals
- Two K9's Teams
- Two Motorcycles
- Accident Reconstruction Team
- Crime Scene Techs
- The Department Enjoys Robust Support from the Community



Origins

- Chambersburg Borough Manager Jeffrey Stonehill Read an Article on How Cameras Were Used to Enhance Safety at the Democratic and Republican National Conventions.
- He Also Read a Different Article About License Plate Readers (LPR)
- The Borough Manager Believed that the Combination of Downtown Cameras and LPR's would enhance the Safety of the Borough
- In Early 2016, the Old Downtown Cameras were Replaced and Expanded. The LPR's were purchased and installed.

Chief Camacho's Integrated Philosophy

- 1) Technology must be operable and used (CAMERAS & LPR'S)
- 2) Images and information must be shared (CRIMEWATCH)
- 3) Solicit the publics help as much as possible (CRIMEWATCH)
- 4) No crime is to small (OFFICERS BUY IN-PUBLIC SERVICE)
- 5) Integrate platforms (OFFICERS & SUPERVISORS)

The Israeli Rule

- Technology should not replace manpower but be used as a force multiplier
- Technology should enhance good, old fashion police work

Downtown Camera System

- 35 Axis Cameras in 2019
- Initial Cost \$90,000
- Mixture of Fixed and PTZ (Pan, Tilt, Zoom)
- Planning is Crucial Before Installation
- Camera Placement (Obstructions, Ability to Repair, Vandalism, Trees in Winter vs Summer, Flags)

Pan Tilt Zoom (PTZ) vs Fixed Cameras

- PTZ- Can Cover a Larger Area and Have Scanning Ability,
 Used to Zoom to get Detailed Footage, More Expensive Than Fixed Cameras
- Fixed- Used for General Overview of an Area, Less Expensive
- For the Best Outcome a Combination of Both Types of Cameras Should be Used

Downtown Cameras

Sample Usages

Fight Caught on Camera (Arrests Made)



Hit and Run Striking Vehicle Located and Info Exchanged



Theft of a Jacket, Suspect Followed on Cameras Until he was Lost





PTZ Video



License Plate Readers (Recognition)

- Vigilant Solutions (There are several other companies)
- \$200,000 Total
- 1Fixed Location (The Busiest Intersection in Chambersburg)
- \$60,000 with Seven Cameras
- 4 Mobile Units
- \$15,000 Each Unit with Three Cameras
- 100,000 to 120,000 Detections Per Week

What is an LPR?

- LPR's are becoming a significant component of municipal predictive policing strategies and intelligence gathering.
- They are used for the recovery of stolen vehicles, identification of wanted felons, and monitoring for "Amber Alerts".
- Identified license plates may be matched against databases including "wanted person", "protection order", missing person, gang member, known and suspected terrorist, supervised release, immigration violator, and National Sex Offender lists.
- TRANSPARENCY IS A MUST TO GET COMMUNITY BUY IN!!!!!!!

LPR's and Screen Shot





In Car Cameras

- Digital Ally
- Installed in All Patrol Vehicles and One Detective Unit
- Approximately \$4,000 per Vehicle
- Wireless Download of Data Every Time a Vehicle Enters PHQ Parking Lot
- Need Good Polices and Procedures on its Use

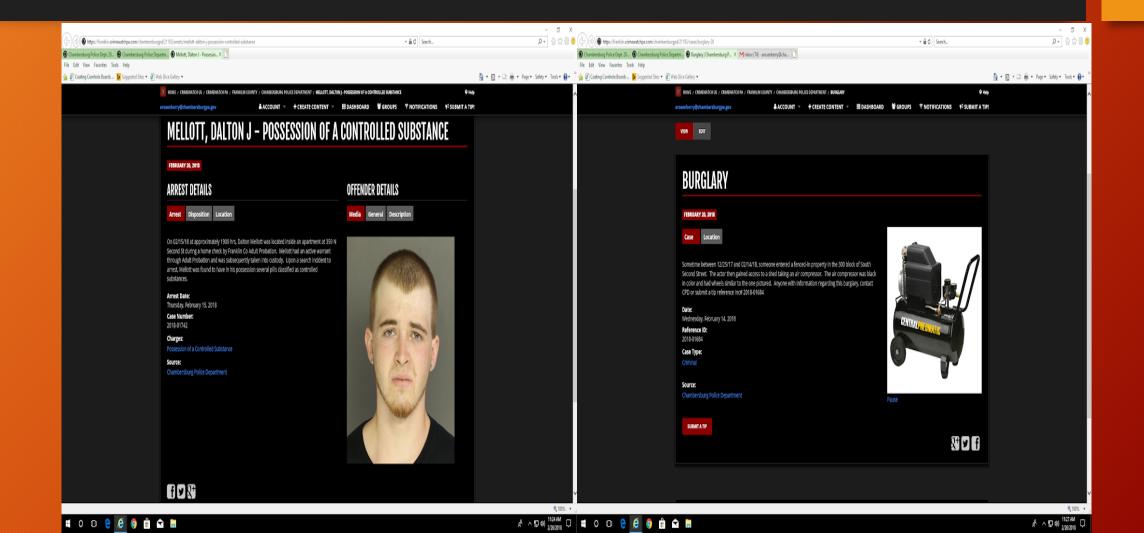
E-Tickets

- TraCS
- Officers Scan Drivers License
- Populates Data on Citations
- Data is Automatically Uploaded to Our Records Management System
- \$1,000 Per Unit
- Computer, Scanner, Printer (One Unit)
- Saves an Incredible Amount of Time

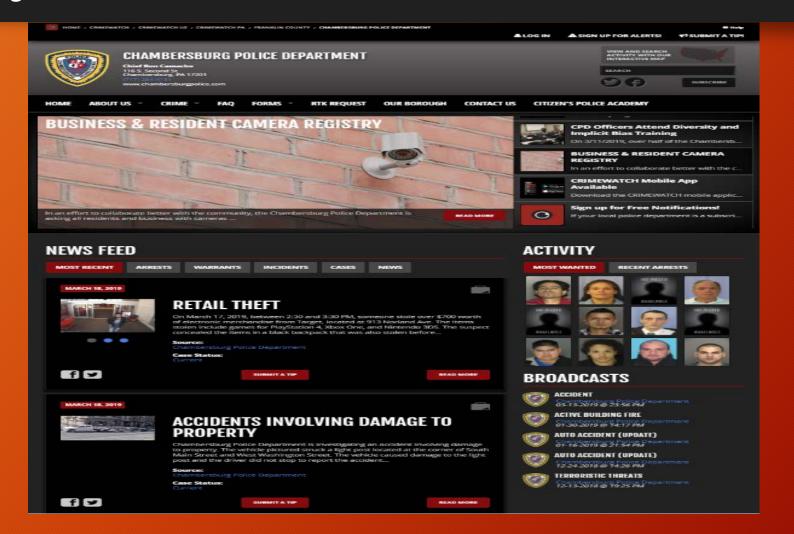
CRIMEWATCH TECHNOLOGIES

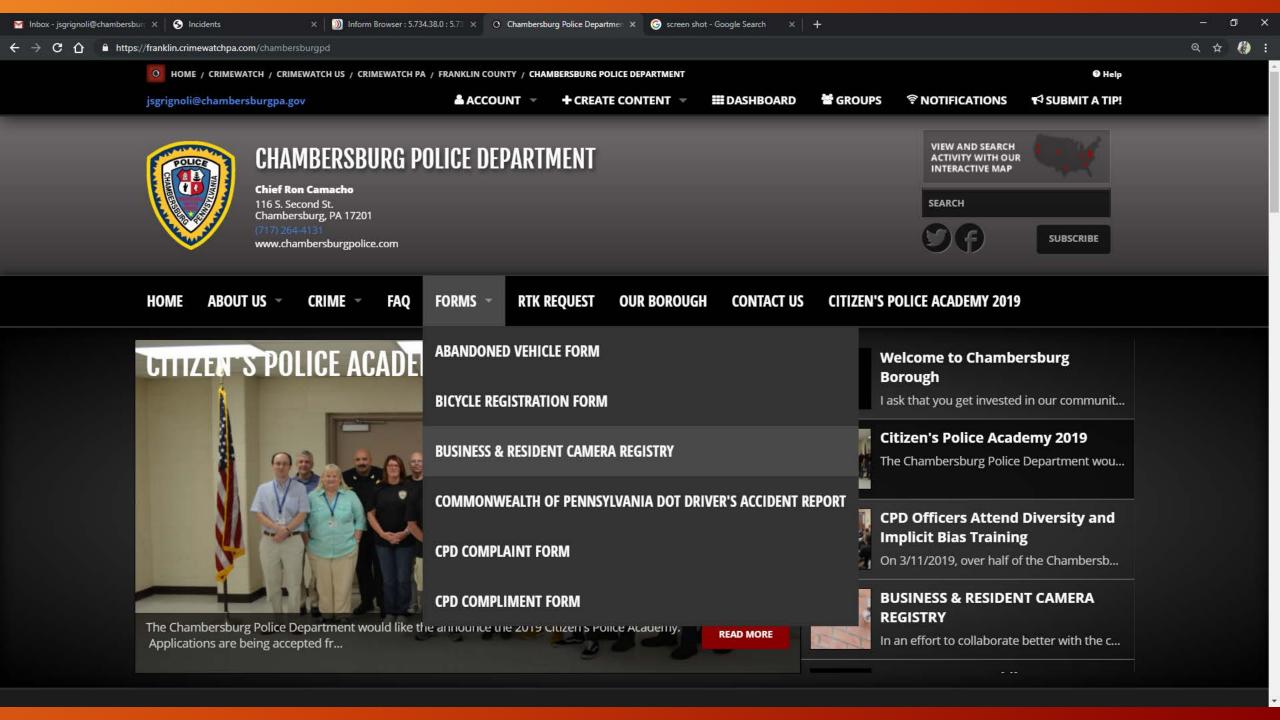
- \$5,100 Per Year
- Effective Community Engagement in a Digital World is Very Difficult for Police Departments
- No Standardized Public Engagement Platform for Police Departments
- The Public Demands Relevant and Timely Crime Information
- Content Entered Into CRIMEWATCH is Sent Out to Public Via Facebook and Twitter. Twitter is Picked Up by News Outlets
- The Public can Anonymously Submit Tips
- Phone App Available
- http://www.crimewatchtech.com/
- Matt Bloom- Founder/CEO <u>mbloom@crimewatchus.com</u>

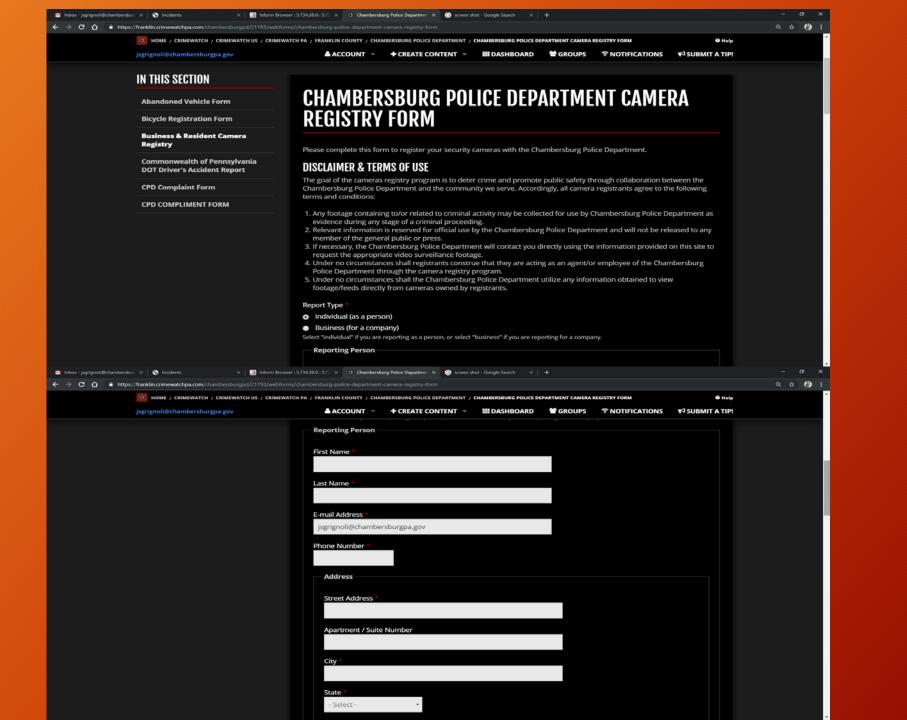
CRIMEWATCH Screenshots

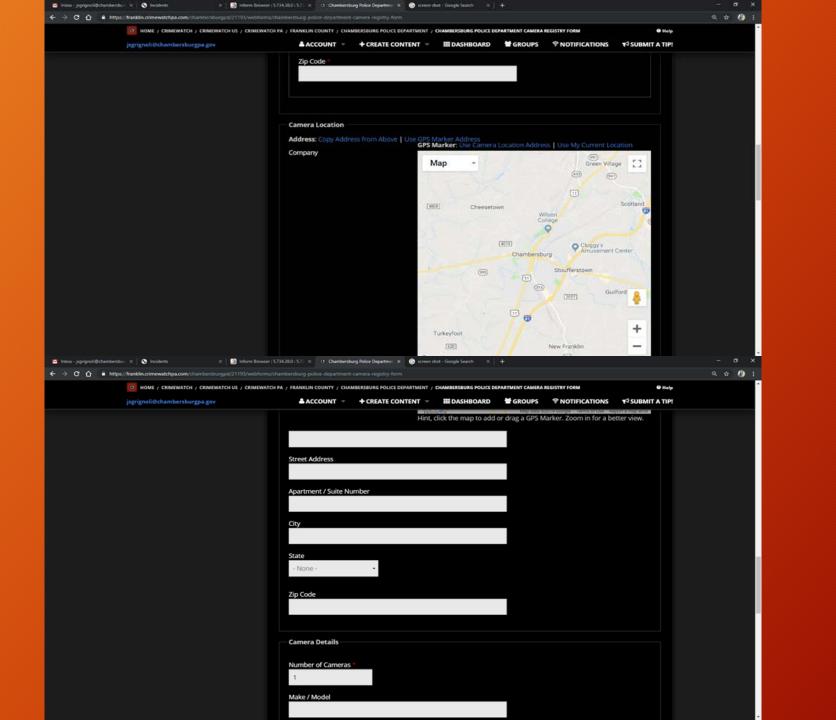


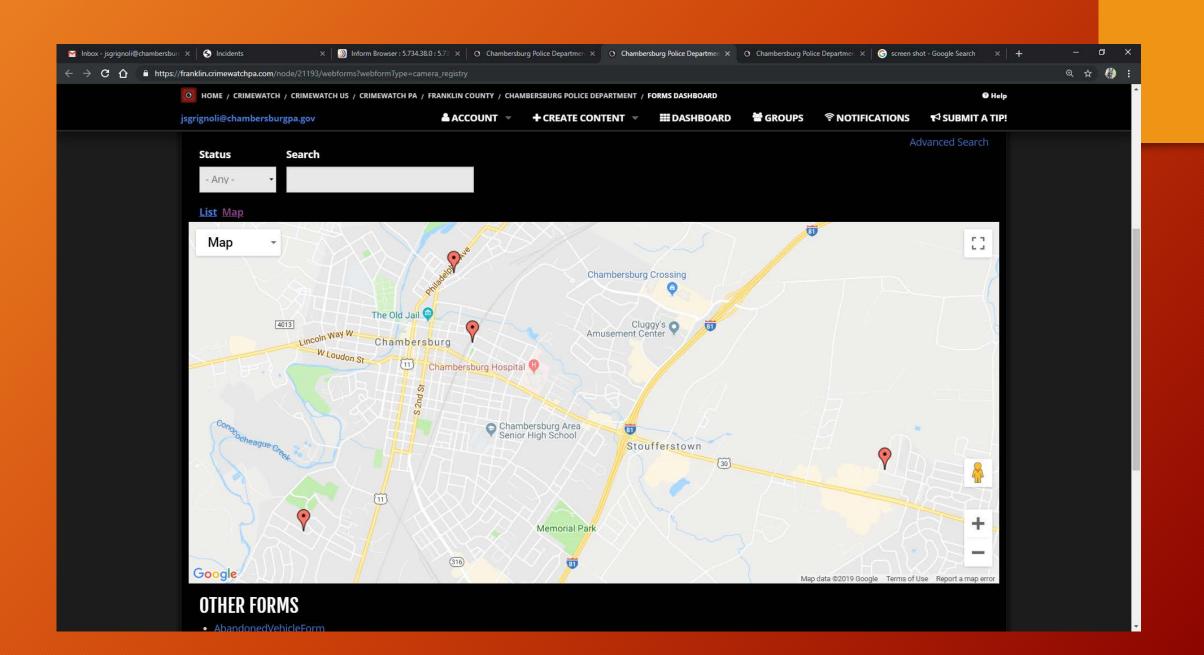
Business & Resident Surveillance Camera Registry











Integration

- Images from Downtown and In Car Cameras are Shared Daily on CRIMEWATCH Platform. Many Tips are Received From CRIMEWATCH.
- When a Major Crime Occurs Downtown a Detective or Officer is Assigned to Monitor the Cameras in Real Time. Information is Passed on to Responding Officers and Detectives
- If a Suspects Car is Identified, the License Plate is Entered Into the LPR System. Now, Multiple Cameras and Many Jurisdictions Will be Alerted if a Camera Takes Photo of the License Plate.

Results (2018 Stats)

- Part I Offenses
- CPD = 54% Clearance Rate
- Franklin County Average = 37.8% Clearance Rate
- State Average = 32.2% Clearance Rate
- National Average= 38.7%

- Part II Offenses
- CPD = 76.9% Clearance Rate
- Franklin County Average = 73 %
 Clearance Rate
- State Average = 59.2 % Clearance Rate
- National Average= 30.5%

Results Continued

- Reported Crime in Chambersburg is down in the Borough by 4.56% overall since 2017.
- Specifically Part I offenses are down by 7.72%
- Part II offenses are down by 2.61%

- Crime Watch- Citizens Submit Information to the Department Via Our Facebook Page.
- Most of Those Submissions are Anonymous but Greatly Contribute to Our Ability to Solve Crimes
- 204 Tips Generated in 2018

Successes in 2018

LPR's

- Have Assisted Officers in Over 120 Investigations Which Included:
- -Multiple DUI's
- A Stolen Vehicle Which Contained a Large Amount of Drugs.
- Wanted Persons
- National Bank Fraud Case (ATM Skimming)

Downtown Cameras

- Have Assisted Officers in Countless Incidents Which Resulted in Several Felony Arrests Including:
- A Bank Robbery
- A Burglary
- A Robbery Involving a Gun

Successes in 2019

- Within a two week period March 30th to April 10th, 4 major crimes were committed, 3 in the downtown corridor and one in a park.
- 3/30-Shooting (Two victims)
- 4/4- Robbery (Park cameras)
- 4/9- Retaliatory shooting (Vehicles and property hit)
- 4/10- Felony theft (\$10,000 Necklace)
- All of the above cases were solved within 24 hours, and all suspects were arrested within 72 hours.

Message from the Community

- Info from 2019 Community Survey:
- 98% of the respondents stated the department needed to stay up to date with their technology platforms
- 70% believe the Borough is a safe or very safe community
- 75% believe their own neighborhood are safe or very safe
- 86% of the respondents had pleasant and professional interactions with the Chambersburg Police Department
- 62% believe that the department prevents crime well or very well

Future Trends

- Body Cam Integration
- Drones
- Facial Recognition
- Full Time Monitoring of Cameras
- Fusion Centers
- Portable LPR

Funding Solutions

- Foundations- Example Lancaster Safety Coalition (Lancaster, PA)
- Donations
- Partnerships- DA's & Police, Police & Schools, Hospitals, and Business, Police & Police
- Grants- Local, State, Federal
- Samantha L. Dorm-Grant Consultant
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Questions

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- Instructor/Consultant
- Tactical Operations, Active Shooter Mitigation, Situational Awareness, Leadership, and Supervision.